

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior claims previously submitted.

1. (Currently amended) A method for generating a stream of video images such [[as]] that, at the reception, in each current video image, a preregistered picture ~~can be~~ is superimposed [[to]] on a predetermined area of a moving object, the method comprising:

providing, with a calculator, a first set of oriented views of the preregistered picture in various orientations;

associating each oriented view of the first set of oriented views with an orientation index that identifies the physical orientation of the oriented view of the preregistered picture;

storing, in a machine-readable medium, the first set of oriented views associated with each orientation index;

estimating in each video image the location, orientation and size of said area of said object;

selecting the orientation index of the oriented view having the same orientation as said area in the current image; and

transmitting with each current image the selected orientation index along with information on the location and size of said area.

2. (Currently amended) The method for superimposing the preregistered picture on the predetermined area of the moving object of claim 1[[,]] further comprising:

downloading at least one second set of views of said picture, corresponding to said first set of oriented views; and

for each transmitted current image:

extracting the orientation index and the size and location information;

selecting, from said second set of views, an oriented picture in accordance with the orientation index;

computing a scaled picture on the basis of said size information; and superimposing said scaled picture in the current image at a location corresponding to the location information.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, in which at the beginning of a TV program to be transmitted, said second set of views is downloaded in video receivers.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, in which said second set of views is identical to said first set of oriented views.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, in which said second set of views contains picture frames of same orientation of said first set of oriented views, with a picture content.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, in which the content of said second set of views depends upon the geographic broadcasting zone.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, in which the location and orientation information in a current image are calculated for a reference point of the object.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, in which, in a current image, the location, orientation and size of an object are provided in a differential way with respect to a former image.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, in which static points of an image are localizable to detect when a new object comes into a next image.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 using shape recognition tools to detect the presence of the moving object in the current image on the basis on a stored geometrical representation.

12. (Currently amended) A system for generating a stream of video images to be broadcasted such [[as]] that, at the reception, in each current video image, a preregistered picture ~~can be is~~ superimposed on a predetermined area of a moving object, the system comprising:

at least one input for video images;

a calculator for providing a set of oriented views of said picture for various orientations and associating with each oriented view an orientation index that identifies the physical orientation of the oriented view of the preregistered picture associated with the corresponding orientation index;

a memory for containing said set of oriented views;

an estimator of the location, orientation and size of said area of said object in each video image;

a selector for selecting, among said set of oriented views, an oriented picture having the same orientation than said area in the current image, and providing the associated orientation index; and

a generator of a video stream in which, each image containing said area is attached to the selected orientation index along with the location and size information of said area.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12 further comprising:

a video receiver adapted to receive images comprising:

memory for containing the set of oriented views;

an extractor for extracting from said memory an oriented picture on the basis of the orientation index attached to each image of the video stream; and

a calculator for providing a scaled picture on the basis of the size information attached to each image in the video stream, and for superimposing

said scaled picture in the current image at the location corresponding to said location information.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, in which a second set of views contains picture frames of same orientation of said first set of oriented views, with a picture content.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, in which said first set of oriented views contains only picture frames.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising: superimposing, with a video receiver, the oriented view having the same orientation as said area in the current image in the current image.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising: superimposing, with a video production mixer, the oriented view having the same orientation as said area in the current image in the current image.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising: displaying a video image comprising an oriented view having the same orientation as said predetermined area in the current image superimposed on the current image.